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SECURITY INFORMATION

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
6 May 1953

LOCAL DEMONSTRATIONS PLANNED FOR SECRETARY
DULLES' MIDDLE EAST TRIP

1. Communist agitation in Egypt and India, and demonstrations among the 850,000 Arab refugees, will probably greet Secretary Dulles when he visits the Middle East in May, according to recent reports.

EGYPT Jordanian refugees are reportedly preparing a memorandum on the demands of Arab refugees to be presented to Mr. Dulles upon his arrival in Cairo. Communists plan to welcome him with a mass protest by the families of political internees; the Egyptian people will be called on to denounce him and dismiss the Nagib regime.

ISRAEL The Israeli Government has taken unprecedented security measures to ensure the visitor's safety. Possible danger spots, however, are the Israel-Jordanian border and the city of Jerusalem where Arabs or Israeli terrorists may precipitate disturbances.

JORDAN Communist leaders are reportedly planning a refugee demonstration in the Aqaba area. Communists in Hebron are said to be planning to promote pessimism among the refugees regarding the value of the Dulles trip. They will also stress the fact that the aim of the visit is to establish a Middle East defense organization and will spread the idea that the trip is a failure. Moderate refugee leaders will seek an audience in order to present their demands; they have vetoed a suggested peaceful demonstration, however.

SYRIA [REDACTED] the Communists are planning demonstrations in Damascus and in Beirut, Lebanon.

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LEBANON [REDACTED] there will probably be trouble in Lebanon.

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A mass demonstration by 20,000 refugees is planned for the Dulles arrival in Beirut. It would presumably be similar to one staged during the recent visit of American journalists.

IRAQ On 20 April, Iraqi Communists distributed pamphlets denouncing the Middle East Defense Organization and attacking the coming visit of Dulles as aimed at "enslaving our nation."

INDIA In New Delhi, the pro-Communist All-India Peace Council has issued a circular denouncing the trip, and the council has suggested public meetings and the adoption of resolutions urging Dulles not to come.

2. Communism is not an immediate threat to the stability of any Arab state, Israel or India. In the past, however, hard-core Communists in Jordan have organized anti-Western and anti-UN demonstrations among the refugees. They have also cooperated with the followers of the ex-Grand Mufti of Jerusalem and the Moslem Brotherhood in organizing terrorist cells in some refugee camps.

3. The exploitation of the refugee problem has been made easier by the deteriorating morale of the refugees and the consequent growing unrest. The latter has reached such proportions that many observers believe violent disturbances may develop at any time. They could get beyond the control of the authorities.

4. It is believed the security forces of the Arab states are capable of maintaining order and that the governments will wish to prevent any activity which endangers the safety of the visiting group but that they may be insufficiently aware of the need for extraordinary security precautions.

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